

NSC BRIEFING

28 June 1956

BACKGROUND--DISTURBANCE IN PERU

- I. Peruvian Gov't decreed a "modified state of siege" on 27 June.
  - A. Decree was published following Lima students riots over high cost of living and sympathy strike by over 100,000 workers, in support of petroleum industry workers, who are now striking for higher wages.
- II. Real motive of Gov't decree may be a last-ditch effort to keep the leftist but non-Communist APRA party from gaining legal status.
  - A. Peruvian radio on 28 June broadcast reports that leading APRA leaders have been arrested and newspaper offices of APRA closed.
  - B. APRA, illegal since 1948, is still probably the largest political party.
    1. APRA cast most of its support for Prado, apparent winner of Peru's 17 June presidential elections.
    2. APRA--running under other party tags--also apparently won a number of seats in parliament.
  - C. Prado has reportedly stated he intends to legalize APRA when he takes office (inaugural - late July)--but does not plan to legalize the outlawed Communist Party.

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FOOTNOTES  
NO CHANGE IN  
DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHANGE  
NEXT REVIEW DATE  
AUTH: HQ 79-2  
DATE: 1-14-80 REVIEWER:

25X1